

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS ITEMS

News of Interest Gleaned From All Sections of the State and Arranged For Busy Readers

Will Succeed Crum.

Washington, Special.—The President Tuesday sent to Senate the nomination of Edward W. Durant, Jr., as collector of customs for the district of Charleston, S. C. The appointment of Mr. Durant ends the contest which was waged for so long over the selection of Dr. Wm. D. Crum. As the only objection to Dr. Crum was based upon the fact that he is a negro, it is presumed that Mr. Durant's nomination will be confirmed in due course of time, although his nomination was allowed to lie over when the Senate met in executive session Tuesday, while other nominations, which were sent in were promptly acted upon. Dr. Crum's nomination had been before the Senate at each session since January, 1903. While he has been in office all this time, he was never but once confirmed by the Senate. The confirmation took place in the Fifty-eighth Congress. The remainder of the time was covered by recess appointments. The selection of Mr. Durant is generally accepted as the introduction of President Taft's announced policy of appointing white men to Federal positions of responsibility in the South.

Notable Case at Edgefield.

Edgefield, Special.—The Court of Common Pleas has been in session at this place since last Monday, the 8th inst. The first two days were consumed in the trial of the cases of Carley against the Southern Railway and Mack Davis against the Western Union Telegraph Company. In the former the jury failed to agree, a mistrial being entered. A non-suit was granted in the latter, the plaintiff failing to show that he suffered any damage as a result of defendant's negligence. On Wednesday the case of J. T. Patterson against the Farmers' Bank of Edgefield was commenced. Although the Court has since been continuously engaged in its hearing, the end is not even in sight, the possibility being that it will consume not only this week, but will run into next week. No case ever tried here has attracted more interest, the Court House being packed to its utmost capacity, eminent counsel being engaged on both sides. Col. D. S. Henderson, of Aiken, appears as leading attorney for the plaintiff; while the Hon. George Johnstone, of Newberry, occupies a like position for the defense.

Fire at the Fair Grounds.

Columbia, Special.—Fire of unknown origin destroyed two sections of the racing stables at the State fair grounds at an early hour Tuesday morning. Eighty stalls were burned on the south side of the grounds, and but for the prompt and efficient work of the bucket brigade, operated by the workmen of a carnival company show, which are quartered at the fair grounds, the flames would doubtless have destroyed the entire stables in that section of the racing quarters. The property loss amounted to \$1,000, but about half of the loss is covered by insurance. Secretary Love of the Fair Association, said Tuesday that the work of rebuilding the burned section of the stables would begin at once, as a series of races has been arranged for the spring, and it would be necessary to have the entire stables ready for use, as the horses expected to participate in the races will need the full accommodation of the stables.

Columbia Clubs Raided.

Columbia, Special.—Chief Constable Dickson and Constable Ogg and McSwain Thursday raided four social clubs and placed the managers under arrest. Thursday night Hunt Brothers' restaurant, on Gates street was also raided, and a clerk named Kammer was arrested. The cases were worked up by a detective named Wilson, from Atlanta.

Memorial Window Commission.

Columbia, Special.—Gov. Aansel has named the commission to take charge of the appropriation made by the general assembly for a memorial window at Blandford church, near Petersburg, Va. The commission consists of Senators Weston of Richland, Johnstone of Newberry and Representative Rucker of Anderson. An appropriation of \$360 was given by the State for the memorial window in honor of the South Carolina Confederate soldiers who fell near Petersburg during the conflict on the battlefields of Virginia.

U. D. C. Take up the Matter.

Columbia, Special.—The legislature has appropriated \$12,000 for the Confederate Home. The management asked for \$16,000. In order to equip the home, it will be necessary to raise some money. The Daughters of the Confederacy have taken the matter in hand and propose to raise the money. Mrs. Robert D. Wright, of Newberry, president of the South Carolina Division makes a pathetic appeal to the various chapters.

State Education Board.

Columbia, Special.—The State board of education met Thursday in the office of the State superintendent of education. All the members were present except the representative of the Sixth district, who has not been appointed, the place being vacant on account of the election of W. J. Montgomery as State senator. The report of the high school inspector was heard, and the board sealed several schools that had not complied with the regulations of the high school act. The report was exhaustive, and Prof. W. H. Hand, the inspector, was commended for the thorough presentation of facts and conditions. Four counties had already received more than the amount which can now be paid out under the law, and of course all high schools in these counties will not receive as large an appointment as was made last fall.

Will Reforest His Land.

Aiken, Special.—A great deal of interest has been manifested here in the avowed intention of Mr. T. I. Hickman, president of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company, to reforest about 2,000 acres of de-timbered land around Graniteville. These lands were many years ago cleared of all timber, and it is the intention of Mr. Hickman to reforest it, thus converting what is now barren land into valuable forests. Mr. Hickman is negotiating with the department of forestry of the Government with a view of getting national aid in the matter. Mr. Hickman states that it is probable that he will have the work done in the near future. It is probable that the lands will be sown with seed of timber, instead of transplanting, as it is said that pines do not readily take root when set out.

Municipal Utilities Urged.

Lexington, Special.—Electric lights and waterworks for Lexington are being agitated by the citizens now, and there will be a public meeting in the near future to discuss the advisability of the town voting on the issue of bonds to secure an electric light plant and a complete system of waterworks. This subject has been discussed before, but it has never taken on serious proportions until recently. The property owners realize it is said, that insurance would be very much cheaper with a good water system and the amount saved in insurance alone aside from the many other advantages to be derived would soon pay for the cost of putting in the system. But few towns in the State, as well located as Lexington, are without electric lights, and the people here realize that they can ill afford to be behind other towns along the line of progress.

Cotton Warehouse Burns.

Chester, Special.—The cotton warehouse of Joseph Wylie & Co., with its contents, consisting of somewhere between 350 and 500 bales of cotton was destroyed by fire early Thursday night. The fire spread rapidly, and S. M. Jones & Co.'s stables, the city's stables, and several negro tenant houses belonging to E. C. Stann, were damaged or destroyed. Wylie & Co. also lost a considerable supply of baled hay, a number of new wagons, and other valuable property, including their stables and sheds. Fortunately all live stock were saved. The fire department did splendid and effective work, and at 8:30 o'clock although the fire at one time threatened to sweep a large part of the business district, the flames are practically subdued.

Bullet Brings Down Thief.

Chester, Special.—Ike Feaster, colored, was shot and perhaps fatally wounded at 2 o'clock Thursday morning by Officer J. G. Howsee, of the city police force. Feaster had broken into the store of T. H. Ward, colored, and was coming out of the rear with his plunder, when Officer Howsee, who had been attracted by the noise, endeavored to halt him.

Train Kills Centenarian.

Newberry, Special.—Ned Kinard, an old colored man, said to be 110 years old, was knocked down and killed by a freight train at the Southern depot, Wednesday about 1 o'clock. The old man was leaning against a box car when a shifting engine backed up and shoved against the one on which he was leaning, knocking him down and then running over and killing him. He was a slave of Gen. H. H. Kinard in slavery days and was a pretty old negro when set free.

Technical Training in Public Schools.

Charleston, Special.—Dr. Charles W. Elliot, the former president of Harvard university, delivered an address here Wednesday night before a large audience, in which he deplored the fact that the public school systems do not sufficiently consider the necessary structure of democratic society and of those industries which constitute the vital interest of the community.

INSURANCE DEPOSITS

An Important Ruling on Insurance Bonds.

In regard to the recent enactments of the legislature requiring all companies to deposit with the commissioner a bond or securities in the discretion of the commissioner, Commissioner McMaster has made the following rulings: Either the principal or the surety must have on deposit securities to the amount of the bond or must have in South Carolina property liable to attachment to the amount of the bond. This amount is \$20,000 for life insurance companies and \$10,000 for all other companies. A surety company must have on deposit securities to an amount equal to the amount of the largest single bond which it will give, but should it have one deposit, it will be received on the bond of other companies to ten times the amount of the deposit it makes. That is to say that to give a bond for a life insurance company a surety company must have on deposit \$20,000, and in this case would be received on a gross aggregate of bonds to the amount of \$200,000. The commissioner, for the present, will receive any good securities but he will expect the companies making the deposits within a reasonable time to secure domestic investments, such as State bonds, county or municipal bonds, or real estate mortgages in South Carolina, or some such domestic securities.

Suing Railroad For Damages.

Greenville, Special.—Several suits against the Southern Railway which will be heard in Magistrate Stedley's Court this week, are further reminders of the great freshet last August. On the Columbia and Greenville Railroad several miles below the city, a culvert gave way before the rush of the waters during the flood, and as a result several acres of land were flooded, it is claimed, and the crops on this land ruined. The plaintiffs alleged that the company was careless in not having a culvert that would stand the pressure of high water; that such a culvert could have been provided for by the railroad. The railroad will claim that this culvert had carried the water since 1872; that the flood was unusual, an act of God, and that the company should not be held liable for damages because of the extraordinary high water. One case has already been tried, and in this the jury found for the plaintiffs in the sum of \$75, the value of the corn destroyed. Three cases will be tried this week, and it is said that several others are pending.

Gen. Butler Holding His Own.

Columbia, Special.—The friends of Gen. M. C. Butler will be rejoiced to know that he is doing very well, and that the reports are that he is "holding his own." Gen. Butler is, however a sick man and suffering as he is a chronic trouble, his family and physicians are particularly careful. Gen. Butler has been here at the Infirmary since the first of February, and before that he was confined to his home, and being a man of unusual activity this confinement is not to his liking. Gen. Butler reads the newspapers regularly and he is keeping in close touch with everything, but he would like to be up and about. Gen. Butler's son, Capt. Butler, is here from Kansas City, and his sister, Mrs. Carson, is here with him in addition to the other members of his family who have been here for some time. Mrs. Butler is constantly at the side of her distinguished husband.

One Fatal Case of Smallpox.

Yorkville, Special.—Kirby Pugh, an operative at the York Cotton Mill, died on the mill premises just outside the town limits of Yorkville Sunday night, of smallpox. There have been no other cases nor is there any others now. The mill management and the local physicians have taken every possible precaution to prevent the spread of the disease.

Charged With Soliciting Hands.

Lexington, Special.—Will Lorick, a negro, was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Miller on Friday night upon a warrant sworn out by Mr. W. W. Barre, a lumber manufacturer of this town, charging Lorick with violating the law governing the soliciting of hands from one State to another. It is said that Lorick had secured the promise of several negroes and was arranging to secure transportation for them to go to Florida to work on a turpentine farm. So far no effort has been made to secure his release.

Entombed by Well Cave-in.

Laurens, Special.—Entombed in a caved-in well for five hours and a half, John Fields, a negro well digger, was finally rescued without further hurt than a few bruises on the face. This accident occurred late Saturday afternoon when Fields was descending the walls of the well in the backyard at Mrs. Eloise Shell's residence on Main street; a rock was dislodged by the man's foot, precipitating a general cave-in.

THE ARMY OF THE UNEMPLOYED.



NEW YORK CITY'S IDLE ARMY INCLUDES 120,000 UNION MEN

Startling Figures Furnished by Organizer Herman Robinson—Not Due to Strikes—Vast Percentage of Cases Due to Depression in Business.

110,000 unemployed men and women cannot secure work in New York City.

2700 men have been discharged from Blackwell's Island Workhouse before expiration of their sentences to make way for others sent in.

900 willing heads of families, unable to secure work, are being supported by the Association for the Improvement of the Poor. In 1907 the number was 19.

850 able men, unable to get work, were sent to the Workhouse in the last three months by City Magistrates on their own request. 40,000 union men in New York State have been forced from their organizations for lack of funds to pay dues.

\$34,542,000 were withdrawn from 138 savings banks in New York State last year.

A man willing to work and unable to find work is, perhaps, the saddest sight that fortune's inequality exhibits under the sun.—Thomas Carlyle.

New York City.—Suppose a parade of the unemployed in Greater New York should start from the Battery to-day. How far up-town do you suppose its van would extend before the last man wheeled into line? The answer vouches for by the noted charity labor workers of New York gives Central Park at least unanimously, or a distance of about six miles.

Herman Robinson, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor, states that at least forty per cent. of the members of the labor unions in New York City are unemployed. The latest report of the State Department of Labor gives the membership of labor unions in this city as 290,000. The present membership should be well above 310,000, but inability to pay dues has caused more than 40,000 union men to lose their membership cards.

120,000 Idle Union Men.

According to Mr. Robinson there would then be at least 120,000 union men out of work in New York City. Of homeless men and vagrants the number is, under ordinary conditions, about 30,000. From such meagre facts as may be collected the total number of New York's unemployed is more than 200,000. Imagine such a host—enough to populate a city almost as large as Rochester.

That the cause of the astonishing number out of work at the end of 1908 was not due to strikes or sickness, but rather to the depression of business. It is represented by the following table:

Idle on account of—	1908.	1907.	1906.
Lack of work.....	195,000	20,716	5,729
Sickness, accident, old age.....	10,000	1,053	841
Other reasons.....	2,900	266	644

A Stupendous Army.

Never in the history of any great municipality has such a stupendous army of unemployed been collected at one time, according to the economic statisticians who have compiled the above figures, and others, for the information of the legislators at Albany.

The number of families applying for assistance to the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor for the last six months is fifty per cent. more than for the corresponding months of a year ago. In three months, November, December and January, 900 able-bodied men, willing and anxious for work, came to this society for aid. The year previous only nineteen such requests were received.

Savings banks in the poorer section of the city report extraordinary drafts in recent months. The activity of one of the largest insurance companies says:

Raise Cash on Policies.

"As compared with the season of 1907-1908, the loans for the season of 1908-1909 have increased thus far over seventy per cent., while the number of lapsed policies increased to more than fifty per cent. The above figures speak for themselves, and prove conclusively that the holders of smaller policies are terribly affected by the present hard times." This condition is general among insurance companies.

Eight Months' Coal Supply—

One Company Has 2,500,000 Tons. Reading, Pa.—Figures computed here show that there is sufficient anthracite coal on the surface to supply the trade for the next eight months at least.

It is said that the Reading Company has at least 2,500,000 tons of coal at its storage yards at Abrams, Landingville and Mahanoy City, and that nearly a million more tons will be added by the end of March. If a strike does not interfere with the plans.

Former Warden John M. Fox is authority for the statement that a majority of the men imprisoned in the Workhouse—probably seventy-five per cent.—would never have been there could they have found employment. In this connection one magistrate said:

"My experience is that there is more distress among the worthy poor now than at any time in the last twelve years. I have committed, chiefly at their own request, more decent men this winter than I have sent there before in any five years of my term as magistrate."

Distress Among Women.

Mary E. Dreier, president of the Women's Trade Union League, said: "This year the distress among women workers has been greater than ever before. It is pitiful. The savings of years have been exhausted, and to this misfortune is added a woman's constant dread of sickness. Others constantly fear being thrown out of work, and this is too often the case. Manufacturers do not now lay in a large stock which will keep these women busy. They fill orders on short notice. They want fifty girls at once. The girls complete the order in two days, and are then dismissed. This is true in all branches of garment trades. This high tension is making the women of New York physical and nervous wrecks. It is a most deplorable condition of affairs."

Frank Julian Warne, whose efforts for a bill now pending in Albany, creating a commission to inquire into the causes and effects of the unemployed in New York State, and to suggest remedies, are meeting with general approbation from all organizations, said:

"Not wishing to be sensational, but as truthful as possible in our limited way of getting accurate figures on present industrial conditions, it is absolutely fair to say that more than 200,000 men are looking for work in New York City alone."

Crowded to the Roofs.

"Look at any city institution to-day where the indigent get aid. They are crowded to the roofs—the city can't care for more. The hospitals are filled and so are the insane asylums. Where will New York place her unfortunate in another year if the present ratio of unemployed keeps up? It is a terrible question to face."

"When a city's wardens turn out 2700 prisoners before their terms have expired to make room for incoming crowds, you may imagine what demands are made on the city's institutions."

Professor John Bates, of Columbia University, in suggesting a remedy for the economic ill, says:

"Loss of employment by large bodies of men personally fit is due to mal-adjustment, since there is never a time when there is not within the limits of society to which these men belong a need of their labor and a chance to dispose of its produce. The trouble would now be relieved by a migration from populous centres to the country."

Puts Union Above the Law and

U. S. Judge Refuses Citizenship. Danville, Ill.—U. S. Judge Wright refused naturalization to W. Strong, a member of the United Mine Workers of America. When asked "If it came to the point that the union and the laws of the United States differed which should you follow?" Strong answered: "The union, of course."

Judge Wright says: "I can never grant the right of citizenship in the United States to any man who follows the dictates of his trade union rather than the laws of our land."

THE NEW TARIFF BILL

Will Bring Annual Revenue of \$300,000,000.

A FEW IMPORTANT CHANGES

The Payne Bill Expected to Wipe Out the Deficiency—Coffee Still on Free List, Sugar Little Reduced, Wool About the Same, Paper Cut in Half, Graduated Inheritance Tax.

Washington, Special.—Congress received the new tariff bill Wednesday from Chairman Payne, of the ways and means committee, whose name the bill bears.

The bill is the product of five months work of the committee and contains 100,000 words. The estimated revenue under the tariff duties prescribed will amount to \$500,000,000, an increase of \$10,000,000 over the Dingley act.

A striking feature of the bill is the inheritance tax. A direct inheritance of \$10,000 to \$1,000,000 is to be taxed one per cent; \$100,000 to \$500,000 two per cent; over \$500,000 three per cent. Collateral beneficiaries are to pay five per cent on all amounts over \$500.

The bill authorizes the issue of Treasury certificates to the amount of \$250,000,000 to run one year.

Coffee stays on the free list.

There is no increase in the beer tax.

There is an eight cent a pound tax on tea from the country where it is produced, and nine cents from other countries.

The lumber duty is reduced 50 per cent; also steel rails and steel products; coal is to be on a reciprocal basis with countries admitting United States coal free.

Wool, first and second class, is unchanged.

There is a reduction of five cents a hundred pounds on refined sugar.

Iron ore and hides are on the free list. Shoes are reduced 40 per cent.

Window glass is unchanged.

Chairman Payne in a statement said that with the return to anything like normal conditions, the nation's deficit will be entirely wiped out; if not the bill provides for the issue of Panama Canal bonds for \$40,000,000 to make up any probable deficiency.

The bill provides for reciprocal trade with the Philippines, limiting imports of sugar, tobacco and cigars.

The Cuban reciprocity provisions are preserved.

A tax is put on the transfer of property.

The duties on cigarettes, perfumeries, fancy soap, toilet articles, cocoa spices, feathers and fur are increased.

The bill adds a new paragraph to the customs act fixing the basis of appraisement at not less than the wholesale price of the article when offered on the market. This basis is expected to result in an enormous increase in revenue.

Printing paper is reduced 50 to 60 per cent, and wood pulp will be admitted free from all countries where no export duty is levied.

A section is added applying to patents obtained by aliens in the United States. It will compel foreigners obtaining patents to build factories here and manufacture here for our trade.

Provision is made to terminate various commercial agreements with foreign countries by notice.

It is provided that the bill go into effect the day after it is passed.

The following are among the increases:

Coal, tar, dyes and cement, 30 to 35 per cent.

Asphaltum and bitumen, 15 to 100 per cent per pound.

Cast polished glass, 2 to 10 per cent, on smaller sizes.

Watch movements, more than seven jewels, 7 cents each; 11 to 15 jewels, \$1.25 each; over 17 jewels, unchanged; watch cases unchanged.

Zinc in ore, 20 per cent.

Building stone is reduced 6 cents; pig iron is reduced from \$4 to 50 cents per ton; scrap iron from \$4 to 50 cents per ton; bar from 1-16 of 1 cent to 4-10 cent per pound, beams, joists, angles, etc., from 5-10 cent per pound to 3-10 cent per pound; hoop iron and steel bands reduced from 30 to 50 per cent; steel rails and railway bars from \$7 to \$3.50.

Fire brick is reduced from 45 to 35 per cent.

Marble, sawed or dressed, is reduced from \$1.10 to \$1 per cubic foot.

Steel ingots are reduced from 3-10 cents per pound to 7-40 cent.

Awaiting the Verdict.

Nashville, Tenn., Special.—With no indications that the 12 men are anywhere near an agreement, the opinion begins to prevail that a mistrial be the termination of the case against Col. Duncan B. C. and Robin J. Cooper and John Sharp for the slaying of former United States Senator Edward W. C. Mack. Judge Hart at 4 p. m. Wednesday adjourned court and started for his country home.